

THE BULLETIN

of the LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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THE SPECIAL LIBRARY FIELD IN LOUISIANA

DOROTHY BECKEMEYER SKAU
Librarian, Southern Regional Research Laboratories
and

JANET RILEY
Post Librarian, LaGarde General Hospital

WHEREVER a shelf of books and a file of pamphlets are found in an office there lies dormant the seed of a special library. How the shelves grow into libraries may differ, but if the need is valid, they will grow.

The secretary overburdened with her office chores, or the specialist already working for the organization, may be drafted as a custodian of the initial book collection. Neither will be capable *per se* to assume full responsibility for processing and promoting the use of the resources. Ultimately, the professionally trained and experienced librarian will be found best to prepare and present the material for the staff as a whole. To realize this is to the advantage of firms and organizations, and indeed many already are psychologically prepared to employ librarians when they are available.

The special library is therefore the outgrowth of an organization's need, and continues to exist only by successfully performing the function for which it was created. This need is for service which "may be described as the performance of the custodial responsibility of acquiring, preparing and maintaining library resources, and the responsibility of promoting use of these resources."¹

The popular conception of a special library depicts it as an agency maintaining a collection in specialized subject fields. It is so organized as to supply "sustained and continued service of securing assessed information, not limited to print,"² in the field or fields of knowledge to which the organization is devoted. Chemical, insurance, advertising, newspapers, and bank libraries, and

business and technology branches of public libraries fall into this group.

A second type is the library which serves a special clientele, while maintaining a general collection. Hospital libraries, the chief exponents of this type, render services similar to those of small public libraries.

FIELDS OF SERVICE: The scope of the special library is limited only by the fields of learning. Examples can be found in departments and colleges of universities, branches and departments of public libraries, government agencies (federal, state, and municipal), industries, medical schools and hospitals, and private institutions. Most of these are represented already in Louisiana; all are needed in this state, and opportunities will undoubtedly develop beyond the present facilities.

THE UNIVERSITY: The departmental libraries of a large university provide examples of almost every type of special library. Librarians with a subject specialty who enjoy working with students will find this type to their liking, and the variety of subjects will depend upon the curriculum. Examples in Louisiana universities include commerce, law, medicine, geology, chemistry, music and speech, dentistry, pharmacy, journalism. Romance languages, art, public welfare, curriculum, engineering, mathematics and physics, biology, agricultural economics, medical technology, and dormitory libraries. The Louisiana Room at L.S.U. and the Middle American Research Institute Library at Tulane University are distinctive within their institutions.

THE PUBLIC: Public libraries in large cities, with subject departments or subject branches will attract librarians who are inter-

ested in various ages and backgrounds, drawn from an entire community. Such specialization is still to be developed in Louisiana, but the trend exists. There is a definite need for a business branch of the New Orleans Public Library, for instance. It is conceivable that such branches or even departments may be contemplated in the public libraries of other cities. Art (including costume), technology, and municipal reference divisions are also possibilities.

GOVERNMENT: "Government" libraries are defined for this article as those which are operated in federal, state, or municipal agencies and instituted to promote their projects. New Orleans has, for example, two branches maintained by the Department of Agriculture Library, Washington, D. C., which serve the local staffs of the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry; there are also several army and navy post libraries, most of which are temporary. Other possibilities for federal libraries in New Orleans and other cities might be in Public Health Service, the Department of Commerce and its bureaus, Veterans' Administration, and similar agencies.

The state of Louisiana supports the State Law Library, and the Louisiana State Museum Library in New Orleans. Departments of state and city agencies such as conservation, commerce and industry, education, health, public welfare, might reasonably employ librarians.

If openings should occur they would be classified under city, state, or federal civil service.

INDUSTRIAL: A library in a commercial or industrial organization with a large staff, functioning as a service unit, can be both a means of saving and of making money for the company. The special librarian's position in a company is unique for it is only through the special library that information can be best adapted to the needs of the whole organization and can be best organized to produce the "right facts at the right time."³

A recent issue of *Special Libraries* disclosed the fact that among the new institutional members of the association are such firms

as American Gas Association, Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, Pan American Airways, Inc., Wachovia Bank & Trust Co. (Winston-Salem, N. C.), Raytheon Manufacturing Co. (Waltham, Mass.).⁴

Surely this list will suggest to Louisiana possibilities of new libraries in our state. There are newspapers, advertising agencies, banks, industrial and chemical firms, public utilities, insurance companies, to whom a special library would contribute in service many times its cost.

MEDICAL: "Today there is a great need for librarians with training in medical library work. Many positions are going unfilled or are being filled by untrained personnel so great is the scarcity of trained medical librarians."⁵

Medical libraries are of several different kinds. There are libraries in medical schools and medical associations. In hospitals, there are professional libraries for the staff, nursing school libraries, and patients' recreational libraries.

Army, navy, veterans', and state institutional hospitals include both medical and recreational libraries; libraries in private hospitals in this state are practically unknown and the field should be explored.

PRIVATE: Professional, religious, and technical societies, clubs, and occasional private book collectors are sometimes employers of special librarians. An outstanding example of a private institutional library enterprise is the proposed research library at International House in New Orleans. This is a newly established non-profit corporation designed to foster trade relations between the United States (especially the Mississippi Valley) and other nations. The library is expected to assume an important place in the institution and lend material aid toward fulfilling the purpose of the organization.

In conclusion, professionally trained librarians, whether returning veterans, persons released from war positions, or new librarians, will find the special library field in a state of expansion. They will not necessarily be required to have training in a subject

field. It is the opinion of many already in the work that broad experience acquired in a large public or university library affords a fundamental and a desirable background for the future specialist.

Kathleen B. Stebbins, Executive Secretary of the Special Libraries Association, says, "Salaries for librarians and assistant librarians in the special library field have risen . . . rapidly during the past twelve months due to

the shortage of qualified personnel, particularly in technical fields. . . ." Mrs. Stebbins also reports placements of librarians in technical firms at base salaries of \$4000 to \$7000 and assistant librarians at \$2400 to \$3600.

From a personal point of view, the field of special librarianship in an attractive one. The sustained contact characteristic of these libraries plus the cordial informality that can be attained provides genuine satisfaction.

¹P. M. Strain, "Public relations for special libraries." *Special Libraries* 36(3):79 (1945).

²J. H. Moriarty, "The special librarian—how special." *Ibid.* 36(2):39 (1945).

³W. Hausdorfer, "Special Libraries Association looks ahead." *Ibid.* 36(7):248 (1945).

⁴*Ibid.* 36(5):164 (1945).

⁵W. D. Postell, Librarian, Agramonte Memorial Library, School of Medicine, L. S. U..

⁶K. B. Stebbins, "... From the secretary's desk." *Special Libraries* 36(5):163 (1945).

REAR VISION MIRROR

MILDRED HOGAN

Research Librarian, State. Dept. of Commerce and Industry

A large chemical industry, seeking a new plant location, will consider a deep-water port which is recommended in Louisiana; in New Orleans, Lake Charles, or Baton Rouge; and will want to know why these cities are recommended. A Louisiana chemist, experimenting with new uses for waste products, asks who manufactures wood flour for use in the making of dynamite, and what is the current price per ton. Perhaps his synthetic product is cheaper. An Eastern manufacturer, facing a desperate shortage of wood, wants a list of Louisiana sawmills which can supply red cypress. One ex-serviceman is interested in the possibilities of commercial shark fishing off the Louisiana coast; another wants information about establishing a laundry business.

All these people turn for help to the Louisiana Department of Commerce and Industry, the agency designated by the Legislature "to promote the civic, industrial and commercial interests and the general welfare of the

state; and particularly to attract new industries to the state; to plan, co-ordinate, and direct efforts looking toward economic development, both public and private, in the state of Louisiana, with particular emphasis on post-war development."

The special function of the Engineering and Research Division, which includes the library, is to collect and classify industrial and commercial information and make it available to interested persons. Of course, close co-operation is maintained with the Information Division, whose job is publicity, and whose Tourist Bureau publications are familiar to most Louisianians.

The office of the Department of Commerce and Industry is on the 23rd floor of the Capitol, where part of the present reception-room space is being rearranged as a library and reading room. Although it could be wished that the building had rubber walls, perhaps the new library can make up in usefulness what it lacks in space.

As is true in many special collections, the most important sources of information are often letters, newspaper clippings, studies made in the past by the Research Division in response to special requests; and current periodicals, rather than the more conventional books. Therefore, although it would be impossible to keep house without Poor's *Industrial Manual*, Hodgman's *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, MacRae's *Blue Book*, the *Plastics Catalog*, and the many publications of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, the information file is receiving a lion's share of attention and work at present. A thorough weeding and reorganization, now under way, will help to make this file an even better source of information about Louisiana's manufacturers, natural resources, agricultural products, transportation, economic conditions, and dozens of related subjects.

Having, like Bacon, taken all knowledge to be its province, the Department works with equal alacrity on an inquiry from an Indiana housewife wishing to buy some Delrex (a scented variety of rice recently developed at the Crowley Experiment Station), and on the ambitious project of building up our files on the frozen foods industry, a field of growing importance to Louisiana in the opinion of the head of Research Division. No matter what task is at hand, it is very pleasant for the Research Librarian to recall that the resources of the Louisiana Library Commission and the L. S. U. Libraries are available and

staff members always helpful, as are the staffs of the federal and other state agencies.

The job of the Research Librarian, then, on the basis of a few months' experience, seems to be threefold: to furnish information to the casual or not-so-casual, inquirer or refer him to a more appropriate source, whether a trade association, or the University Bureau of Business Research; to organize the present resources of the library, with a minimum of record-keeping; and to build up the collection on topics of importance to Louisiana's present and future prosperity, such as Latin-American trade, the petroleum industry, natural gas, seafoods, and fur.

As can be readily seen, these are tasks which make the day seem too short, and which bring with them the pleasure of learning new things, the stimulation of an opportunity for definite service, and the interest of contacts with many people.

In a recent article in *Chemical Industries* by Irene M. Strieby and Betty Joy Cole, library service to scientific and research clientele is compared to the rear vision mirror of an automobile, which enables the driver to go forward safely, knowing what is behind. If businessmen and industrialists are also to use and appreciate libraries, they must receive similar service. Any contribution which the Dept. of Commerce and Industry library can make toward this goal will represent time and effort well spent.

YALE PROGRAM IN AMERICAN HISTORY

In cooperation with the Yale University program in American history, various public spirited citizens and corporations of New Orleans made a generous gift to the schools and other educational institutions and community organizations of the city. Twenty-one sets of the *Pageant of America* and four sets of the *Chronicles of America* were presented to the public schools. Five sets of the *Pageant of America* were given to the Catholic schools, and eight sets of the *Chronicles of America*.

LOUISIANA IN PRINT

Graham, Kathleen. Notes on a history of Lincoln Parish. (In the 1945 summer quarterly issue of the Louisiana Polytechnic Institute Bulletin, Ruston.) The material is compiled from family letters and papers and from information given Miss Graham by early settlers of the community. A second edition has just been printed as a part of the regular bulletin series. This edition has been corrected, revised, and brought up to date. Miss Graham is assistant librarian.

A LETTER FROM BERLIN

HELEN ADAMS

Formerly Librarian, L. S. U. Library School

I was scheduled to leave Paris several weeks ago along with two of my friends who were going out on bookmobiles to Austria, but my drivers were ten days late in getting in from Berlin (Paris is a hard place to get in and out of) so I very sadly watched my friends depart, after we had planned to have such a good time on our trip as far as Belgium together. However, it all worked out O. K. My drivers came in on a Monday morning and immediately started testing the truck and getting it into good shape for the trip. Even at that, I was quite surprised when at 2:30 on Wednesday afternoon, they said to be ready to leave the next morning. You should have seen me doing last minute errands and packing, but we did manage to get away around ten next morning.

The two boys who were sent to drive the bookmobile back to Berlin were both swell kids. One of them was a real tough paratrooper who had "beaucoup" points and he left for the States last week. The other one had not been over here long. He volunteered for the job as my permanent driver. He is a good mechanic and for a while I was afraid his outfit was'n't going to release him. However, they finally did. He will be a grand driver, and it is so much better to have some one who actually asked for the job, and not one picked out by the "volunteer" method.

We had a very pleasant drive from Paris to Soissons (65 miles) arriving in time for lunch. The countryside was so peaceful and beautiful that it was hard to imagine that just a year ago there had been fighting in this section. The woodlands were a blaze of color, and we passed through lots of little quaint, old towns. The buildings were hundreds of years old, and each village had an old church with a clock. And each of these clocks after the centuries it has been running, still keeps good time.

The only thing to remind us of war, outside of convoys along the road, were stacks of ammunition which lined the shoulders of the road on both sides. One slip of the truck would have been goodbye! And just in case you are'n't aware of the fact, there are signs posted stating how many people have been killed on that road in the past few weeks or months. I admit I didn't feel comfortable at times just thinking about it.

Before I go any further in my account of my trip, perhaps I should describe my bookmobile. It is a K-60 truck which had been used by the Signal Corps and which had really seen rough usage, converted into a bookmobile. It is a two and one-half ton truck with a closed cab. The back is all built of steel and has shelves with special moveable braces to hold the books on the shelf. The inside is painted white. There is a small charging desk at the back end, with trays for the circulation records, a special rack for magazines, a set of steps for entering the truck, and a small window at the front. The outside, of course, is O. D., but there is a little color used in the sign which reads, "Special Services Bookmobile." So you can see it is really something, and any library in the States would be lucky to have such a good one.

But back to the trip! We stopped at Soissons for lunch. The afternoon's ride was not so good; the road was awfully rough and I stayed near the top of the truck most of the time. The weather was rainy and gloomy and our engine began to sputter. Every hill we came to I crossed my fingers and hoped we would make it over the top. All the other trucks which had gone out had broken down along the way, so I knew what to expect. By five o'clock we had reached a little town on the Belgium border, some fifty miles from Brussels which was supposedly our

destination for the first night, so the boys suggested that we had better spend the night here.

At supper I met the RTO officer. In this small village there was only one officer, a couple of enlisted men, and some colored troops. The RTO officer took me to a picture show in Mons, Belgium, fifteen miles away. It was quite an experience. He had an open jeep though it had a top. It was raining and storming so I wrapped myself in a blanket and braved the night. And it was worth it! It was my first experience crossing a border from one country into another. First the French stopped us. The lieutenant knew the guard so they let us through without a question. Then about a half mile away we reached the Belgium guards. They didn't bother to even come out of their little guard house, because they knew the French had O.K.'d us. It was so rainy and dark that I couldn't tell much about Mons. It was a change, however, to see lots of shops with windows full of things to buy. The soldiers whom you see in Belgium are almost exclusively British.

We left the little border town early the next morning. The weather was still bad and we didn't go far until the truck went "caput". My good mechanic came to the rescue and after about an hour of work on it had it in good running shape so that we reached Boon, our destination, by noon. The Special Service Warehouse is there, and that is where we picked up the books for the bookmobile. It took all afternoon to load the truck, so it was almost night when we got into Antwerp. The hotel there was grand. The furniture was all modernistic, and the bed was a dream.

Belgium is a wonderful place. There are very few signs of bombing, and the cities and people are very clean and neat. Their houses are quaint and pretty, and their shops are full of things to buy. Unfortunately I hadn't been paid, and was broke! The outstanding point of interest in Antwerp was a twenty-six story building which is the sky-scraper of Europe, actually they claim the tallest building on the continent. Part of

it had been bombed. The window in my hotel room had only one pane of glass. The rest of it was boarded up.

My driver brought me back to Brussels where they left me, since I was supposed to fly to Berlin. I was fortunate in meeting a nurse captain who had a jeep at her command, who invited me to go sight seeing. Otherwise I probably would have seen very little of Brussels. As it was, in addition to seeing some of the interesting sights of Brussels, we also drove out to Waterloo to see the famous battle grounds. Brussels is a very modern city. It's more like our cities than any I have seen so far. They are building a subway in Brussels and the officer's mess is in what is to be the central terminal. It seemed quite strange to go underground to eat.

The Air Transport Command doesn't fly direct from Brussels to Berlin, so I had to fly back to Paris and then to Berlin. I was in Paris only overnight and got a plane out to Berlin early the next morning. In two days, I was in three European capitals—Brussels, Paris, and Berlin. After riding in a C47 plane with "bucket seats"—seats along the side of the plane, used by paratroopers—I was quite surprised to find myself riding in a plane with plush seats and a WAC hostess. We made one stop at Frankfurt and got to Berlin in the early afternoon. The girls here did not know when I was arriving so there was no one to meet me.

I landed at the famous Tempelhof Airport which was the headquarters for the Luftwaffe. It is the large place with large barracks which were for the German flyers. Of course there isn't much left of it now. I took a bus into Berlin but got off at the wrong stop. When I called for transportation, they sent a jeep with a German driver. I thought he would know where the headquarters were, but unfortunately he didn't and neither could he understand English. Around and around we rode in Berlin. I am quite sure we must have been in British and Russian territory most of the time, because it was almost a solid hour before I saw anything G.I. Finally in desperation I

flagged a jeep to ask directions. It was a colonel! But he was very nice and started me on the right way to headquarters. One of "life's embarrassing moments" occurred to me the other night when I was introduced to this same colonel at a party. He looked at me and said: "Oh yes, you were the one who was riding around lost the other day trying to find B. D. (Berlin District Headquarters). In fact when I saw you, you were headed for Warsaw." And was my face red!

I have a wonderful place to stay. There are eleven of us living in two private homes, two librarians and nine hostesses. Four of us live together; the other librarian, the chief hostess, another hostess, and myself. We each have a room in a house in the district where the wealthy intelligentsia lived—doctors, lawyers, and professional people. This house was hit by an incendiary bomb. One side was burned, but that has been repaired so that the damage is hardly noticeable. The American sector of Berlin is not badly bombed and our neighborhood was relatively untouched. Our house, however, shakes everytime a car goes down the street, or a train passes on the elevated tracks several blocks away. One gets used to it. Every day they are blowing up the shells of buildings around here, and the house shakes and the windows rattle.

In this house and in most of the houses in this section, there are double sets of windows and doors to help keep the houses warm. The front door to our house looks like the door to an ice house. We also have steam heat, but we do not have enough gas pressure for hot water. There is a little hotel a couple of blocks away where we go every Saturday to take a bath.

The couple who own the house live on the third floor and work for us. Conditions are such that if we resided it they would have to move out and live elsewhere. The lady is very nice and she has lovely china and crystal which we use. We make a trip to see a mess sergeant ever so often, and so manage to have breakfast at home—coffee, toast, fruit juice, and jam—with maid service. These people who own the house had moved their furniture to their summer home near Dres-

den, but they are gradually moving it back. The furniture is all very nice, the drapes are beautiful, and there are some lovely pictures and objects of art. The house is very comfortable and homelike. We have a telephone, a grand piano and a radio. Who could ask for more? That is what they mean by "roughing it" in the ETO!

My office is also comfortable. Since I had to have some place to keep the bookmobile and my books, they have given me a place in the Special Service Warehouse. The two officers who work there are grand to me and get anything for me I need. I have two German civilian women working for me. One of them is to be my permanent assistant. She is a very meek soul, but a wonderful worker. She doesn't speak English, and I don't speak German, but the sign language works beautifully. She was a bookkeeper in a bank previously, and she is going to night school to learn English. Don't ever let any one tell you that the Germans aren't industrious! They work awfully hard. I am cataloging my books now and hope to get my bookmobile in operation by the first of the month. I can hardly wait, but there is much to be done before I go out.

Berlin must have been a beautiful city before the war. I should like to have seen it then. Now the Russian sector is almost entirely in ruins. It is the section where all the important buildings were, like the Reichstag, etc. The British sector is not quite so badly destroyed; and the American, as I have said before is comparatively untouched. A lot of the bombing was done with incendiary bombs which gutted the buildings, but left the outside standing. At first glance it seems as if the buildings hadn't been harmed, but upon closer inspection you find that the entire insides are gone. That is what gives the impression that Berlin is not as completely bombed as Munich and some of the other German cities.

The people for the most part are sullen and resentful, and stare at you on the streets. Most of them seem to be in a daze. You really have to dodge them if you are in a car. They frequently insist on walking

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straight into the car. It makes one wonder if their senses are so numbed they don't know what they are doing; or whether they just don't care whether they live or not. I'm inclined to think it is the latter since some of them tell you that they wish the bombs had killed them, that life isn't worth living any more. They are well clothed, but probably thousands of them will starve to death this winter.

At night there are no street lights and the place is pitch black. One doesn't care to step out of the house. It is sort of frightening just to walk home from supper two blocks away, with your footsteps echoing down the empty, silent street. Transportation is quite a problem, so if you don't have a car you don't go anywhere. I attended the ballet one night down in the British sector, at the German Opera House. And one evening I went to an all-soldier original musical comedy which was given at the famous Titania Palast, the theatre where Goering's wife used to sing. The chief hostess helped to produce the play, so we all had a personal interest in it. It really was a huge success.

It snowed a couple of times last week, but only for a short time, and melted almost immediately. It is cold and gloomy, and I don't believe I have seen the sun since I arrived. I don't seem to feel the cold, however, as much as I did in Louisiana. I don't know whether it is because it is a different kind of cold, or whether it is because I wear heavier clothes.*

* * *

But I want to tell you about the bookmobile. I got most of my approximately 3500 books cataloged in a little over a month's time which I thought pretty good since I had only two untrained German assistants. Although the object over here is to keep library practice to a minimum, the books are classified, cataloged (shelf list and dictionary catalog) and lettered. I even found enough lacquer to cover the call number. They are also stamped with a mark of ownership, and

then loaded on the bookmobile, 1500 at a time.

Since I have already described the bookmobile, I won't add anything more about it except, that in addition to the books, we carry magazines and phonograph records. I haven't all my stops organized as yet, but have at least made a beginning. Since the American sector of Berlin covers approximately 83 square miles and has something like 20,000 troops, even though there are some 15 to 20 permanent libraries each assigned to a large concentration of men, you can understand that there would still be very many who did not have access to reading materials, were it not for the bookmobile.

Some of the men's comments have been most gratifying, although they are somewhat exaggerated at times: "Gee, it's good to have a real cloth-bound book in my hands again"; "There as a group of us here in the Medical Dispensary who like to read. We are so hard up for reading material that in desperation we have been reading *Mein Kampf*". — "Gosh I'm going to cut out drinking and stay home and read a book for a change." said one tough G. I.

The collection is very good; most of the titles are 1945 copyright; and the emphasis is upon recreational reading. However, I try to fill all kinds of requests, from that of the fellow who claims he can't read but likes to look at pictures, to the ambitious one who wants to brush up on auto-mechanics or radio in preparation for a civilian job. There is also the student who is studying courses by correspondence. And we have the *Forever Amber* fan here too. The one book I could use an indeterminate number of is a good German grammar (in fact, I'd like to have one just for myself!) I'd say books on photography are most in demand in the subject fields. Nearly every G.I. in Berlin has suddenly become camera-conscious. Some of the fellows just come in the bookmobile to get magazines, and needless to say, those with pin up girls in them are in constant demand.

The bookmobile in Berlin has gotten a lot of good publicity in the paper, radio, and official army daily bulletin. The other week

*From a letter to Mrs. Florrinnell Morton, Director of the Library School, Nov. 17, 1945.

I had my picture taken with two generals who came out to inspect the bookmobile. The boys, as I said before, seem very appreciative of the service, and are grand to me personally. I get treated to coffee, ice cream, sodas, candy, and even vitamin pills (from the medics). And I am invited to become a member of such clubs as "The Ten Tonner", a club of the enlisted men of the Quartermaster Trucking Company.

The bookmobile stops at Quartermaster Trucking Companies, medical dispensaries, military government units, M. P. battalions, and at almost every type of unit there is. The permanent libraries in Berlin are under the supervision of Jo McDonald, the Command Librarian for Berlin District. The libraries are located in various service clubs, Red Cross clubs, Berlin University, and other similar places.*

*From a letter to the Editor, dated Jan. 12, 1946.

DOROTHY DIX ON LIBRARIES

I wish that every man and woman who reads these words of wisdom would take them to heart and forthwith wear a path to the door of the public library. For three-fourths of our population it would be a new experience. They have regarded the public library as a strange building in which they have never set foot and which they have believed to be infested with book-worms and other queer fauna and of no possible interest to themselves. It has never even occurred to them that in it they would find inexhaustible entertainment and amusement and valuable tips on all of their problems, from how to win the boy or girl friend to how to improve their technique in business.

The answer to the riddle is, of course, plain. It is because the average individual has never acquired the reading habit, hence not the library habit, so he and she never knock on the doors that would open a fuller and richer life to them.

From the cradle to the grave nothing else opens up so many roads to happiness as the love of reading. No one is ever bored, no

one is ever lonely who loves to read, for they have all the wits to amuse them, all the story-tellers to entertain them, all the adventurers to take them to the far places of the world.

Especially do I recommend acquiring the library habit to all the poor young couples who cannot afford night clubs and who are chained to Junior's crib. They will not mind being a baby-sitter if they can sit with a good book. (From the Times-Picayune, Friday, December 14, 1945.)

LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONVENTION PROGRAM

Time: March 29th and 30th, 1946; *Place:* Shreveport; *Headquarters:* Washington-Youree. *Convention Theme:* L. L. A. Goes to Work.

Thursday, March 28th: Parish Librarians' Pre-Conference Institute.

Friday, March 29th, 10:00 a. m. First General Session with Loma Knighten, president, presiding; Subject: Public Relations; Speaker: Olga Peterson, Chief, Public Relations, A. L. A.; Discussion Leader: Ella V. Aldrich, chairman, L. L. A. Public Relations Committee.

2:00 Second General Session: Loma Knighten, president, presiding; Business Session: Reports, Election of Officers, Louisiana Legislative Council, Constitutional amendments; Book Reviews: Sallie Farrell, Librarian, Calcasieu Parish Library.

7:30 Book Dinner: Loma Knighten, president, Toastmistress; Speaker: Hodding Carter, Editor of Delta-Times-Democrat, Greenville, Miss., and former Louisiana author.

Saturday, March 30th, 8:30 a. m. Library School Breakfasts: L. S. U., Columbia, Illinois, and Waifs and Strays.

10:00 Section Meetings: School Libraries, Evelyn Peters, chairman; Parish and Public Libraries, Mrs. Rubie M. Hanks, chairman; College and Reference Libraries, Mrs. Lena Marcy, chairman.

12:30 Trustees' Luncheon: J. H. Mercer, chairman, Trustees' Section, presiding.

CHARITY HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING LIBRARY

EVELYN A. DENSMORE

Librarian, Charity Hospital School of Nursing Library

In line with the ever-broadening concept of the field of nursing, the role of the library in the school of nursing plays an increasingly important part. Today it is recognized that nursing is more than the practical application of therapy; the nurse of today bears a responsibility for intelligent assistance to the medical group, as well as the obligation of interpreting medicine and health to the individual patient and the community. It is therefore evident that the education of the nurse must be extensive in scope as well as intensive in specialized content. The library in the school of nursing, just as the library in any other educational institution, offers to the student opportunities for the development of this necessary breadth of interest and depth of character, in addition to furnishing the foundation for her professional knowledge.

The Library of Charity Hospital School of Nursing has come far from its original collection of a few donated medical texts kept under lock in glass-cased cabinets. In 1931 the first course in nursing education under the auspices of Louisiana State University was given, and it was at this time that the addition of University books to the School of Nursing Library was begun. This has resulted in an arrangement which is rather unique in the field, and which will be explained later in this article. The collection was built up gradually, through the donations of doctors and other interested persons, and in 1941, with the appointment of a full-time librarian, a policy of book selection was instituted.

This policy has resulted in a comprehensive, well-rounded collection. The emphasis is laid, naturally, on medical and nursing texts and references, with every other class in the Dewey Decimal System being represented. The fields of psychology, sociology, and

literature follow in importance. The books are selected upon the basis of recommendations of instructors, reviews in medical, nursing, and library journals, and from lists in "Books Suggested for Libraries in Schools of Nursing" published by the National League of Nursing Education. In addition to these classified volumes, a small collection of fiction is being built up. It is felt that the Library has an obligation to furnish worthwhile recreational reading for the students.

The collection consists of approximately 3000 volumes, 700 of which comprise the library of the Department of Nursing Education of Louisiana State University. This arrangement is unusual in that two separate and distinct libraries are housed and administered as a single collection, with a single card catalog. The processes of cataloging, classifying, and preparation for circulation of books for both collections are performed in the Charity Hospital School of Nursing Library. The only manner in which books belonging to Louisiana State University are distinguished from those which are the property of Charity Hospital School of Nursing is by the addition of the symbol "NE" (for Nursing Education) to the call number, and by the L. S. U. bookplate.

The Dewey Decimal System was chosen as being most suitable to our collection for several reasons. First, since the collection includes a large number of books on non-professional subjects, it was felt that neither the Boston Medical Library nor the Bellevue School of Nursing classification systems offered the width of range which was required. In addition, it was desirable to follow the same system as that used by Louisiana State University, since their Departmental library is combined with ours. Thirdly, it was felt that the Dewey Decimal System was the

most widely known and universally used system in public and high school libraries, and for this reason, students and faculty would be most familiar with it. Attempts have been made to adhere to this system as closely as possible, with a minimum of modifications. It is felt that a completely satisfactory classification system for school of nursing libraries has not been developed as yet. Library of Congress cards are secured for most of the books, and in the process of reclassification and recataloging which is now going on, the A. L. A. catalog rules are followed.

Pamphlets are filed in manila folders and kept in a readily accessible vertical file. These pamphlets are now in the process of being classified according to the Bellevue System, and it is hoped that eventually the collection will be completely cataloged. The pamphlet collection is an excellent source of information on current nursing and medical topics.

Since even excellent textbooks at best furnish a resume of a subject up to several months prior to publication, it is often necessary for the students and faculty to rely upon professional journals in order to keep up to date with the constant developments in the fields of medicine and nursing. Information on new drugs, and improved treatments and procedures is often found only in current magazines. Two periodical rooms house these journals, plus the bound volumes and back numbers of all professional and cultural magazines received. Current issues, approximately 50 in number, are kept out on sloping shelves, and the Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature and the Education Index are available in conspicuous places in the room. In addition, since many of the professional journals are not covered by these indexes, a card index of these periodicals is kept in the Library office.

The physical set-up of the Library is such that students find it an inviting place to study. Open shelves line two sides of the main reading room, and built-in wall shelves occupy the other walls. The reading room has tables seating forty-eight and in the periodical rooms the tables seat twelve. Library

privileges are extended to the entire nursing personnel: students, graduates and affiliates, instructors, and supervisors. The Library is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday. Since the staff consists of two full-time professional librarians, it is possible to insure that the students can find assistance at all times. All books except reference books and reserve books circulate for two-week periods.

Plans are now being made for a course in Use of the Library which will be taught to all students. The twelve-hour course will include instructions in the use of the card catalog and periodical indexes, lessons familiarizing students with the available references books, and an attempt to develop their appreciation of the value of reading. It is hoped that through this course, and through daily contacts with the students and faculty, a fuller realization of the facilities presented by Charity Hospital School of Nursing Library may be achieved. Many improvements have yet to be made, but much is being offered now.

CITY ARCHIVES OF NEW ORLEANS

The New Orleans City Archives is located on the fourth floor of the City Hall. It is open on weekdays from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m., and on Saturdays from 9 a. m. to 12. The telephone number is Magnolia 3381, Ext. 111.

The services of the department are quite varied. It furnishes information about many important phases of the life of the City of New Orleans. There are available there the city ordinances, resolutions, Minutes of Council Meetings, ordinances and minutes of the early municipalities of New Orleans, vital statistics prior to 1912, certified copies of old registration certificates, and information with reference to past and current events of municipal importance.

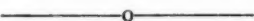
Many of the records maintained by the City Archivist are more than a hundred years old. The earliest documents on hand are the minutes of the Spanish government, dated 1769. Copies of the first English news-

papers published in New Orleans in 1804 are also available. All the material written in Spanish has been translated into English. Many of the documents written in French have been translated.

Newspapers are indexed so that information on any given subject published by newspapers is immediately available. Newspaper clippings covering articles pertaining to municipal government are bound and indexed.

Birth, marriage and death notices published in the local newspapers prior to 1912 have been copied and filed systematically so that information on any given person can be found at once.

Certified copies of old Registration Certificates may be obtained from this department. These copies can be used to obtain a "Delayed Birth Certificate" when the birth has not been recorded by the Board of Health.



HAVE YOU SEEN?

THE ARCHITECTURAL FORUM, JANUARY 1946. An article on Library Buildings presenting the idea of prototypes for developing buildings of various sizes. The article was prepared by the Tennessee Library Council in conjunction with T. V. A. specialists. Mr.

Jacobs, Librarian of the New Orleans Public Library suggests that readers of THE BULLETIN will be interested in it.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES, OCTOBER 1945. Contains the Proceedings, Convention-in-Print. Papers and Reports. Many topics of interest to the special librarian are covered: Research in industrial relations, Editorial aids to technical writers, A Financial library prepares for postwar business, The Transportation library in transition, Petroleum periodicals, and a considerable number of other topics.

THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1944. Contains striking illustrations, graphic statistics, and a written report of the war service of the association.

ARTIGAS-WASHINGTON, THE BULLETIN OF THE BIBLIOTECA ARTIGAS-WASHINGTON; of which Arthur E. Gropp, formerly of the Middle American Research Department, Tulane University, is Librarian. The bulletin is in Spanish, and is under the general editorship of Mr. Gropp.

INSTITUTION LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER 1945. Contains a list of Library Aids, and News about Institution Libraries.

SUMMARY OF SECOND ANNUAL STATISTICAL SURVEY OF PRISON LIBRARIES. By the Committee on Institution Libraries of the American Prison Association, October, 1945.

THE CHEMISTRY LIBRARY LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

GRACE RIGBY CAMERON
Librarian, L. S. U. Chemistry Library

The Chemistry Library is a departmental library of the Hill Memorial Library, and all books for this library are cataloged and processed at the Main Library. Special material, however, such as trade literature, unbound bibliographies, instruction manuals, reprints, theses, reports, etc., are cataloged by the departmental librarian and filed under subject in the vertical file or in special pamphlet boxes.

The library serves the needs of the students in the College and is primarily a research and reference library in the fields of chemistry and chemical technology in which the College is interested.

There are about 9,000 volumes in the library and volumes are being added continuously. In addition to the bound volumes there are files of trade literature, trade catalogs, reprints, theses and other unbound ma-

terial estimated at about 2,500. There are four vertical files in the library, one of which contains material on sugar chemistry and technology, alone.

The collection consists of general and special reference books, handbooks, journals and trade literature and less permanent material. The journals constitute about two-thirds of the collection.

Some of the more important reference works in the library are:

Beilstein's Handbuch der organischen Chemie, 4th ed. Complete with supplements and formula and subject indexes

Friend's Textbook of inorganic chemistry

Heilborn's Dictionary of organic compounds

Houben's Die Methoden der organischen Chemie

The International critical tables

Mellor's Comprehensive treatise on inorganic and theoretical chemistry

Seidell's solubilities of inorganic and organic chemistry

Thorpe's Dictionary of applied chemistry, new 4th ed.

Ullman's Enzyklopadie der technischen Chemie

Watt's Dictionary of chemistry

Worden's Chemical patent index—Covers U. S. patents from 1915-1924

Worden's Technology of cellulose esters

The Library is fortunate in having complete sets of several important foreign journals among which are the following: *Berichte der deutschen chemischen Gesellschaft*, *Bulletin de la Societe chimique de France*, *Hoppe-Seyler's Zeitschrift, fur physiologische Chemie*, *Biochemische Zeitschrift*, *Justus Liebig's Annalen der Chemie*, *Recueil des Travaux chimiques des Pays Bas*, *Zeitschrift fur analytische Chemie*. We have an especially good collection of books, journals and miscellaneous material on sugar chemistry and technology.

Because the College of Chemistry is concerned with the following fields, they are

naturally emphasized in the collection of the library: agricultural and food chemistry, analytical and microchemistry, biological chemistry, cellulose chemistry, colloid chemistry, gas and fuel chemistry, industrial and engineering chemistry, nutrition, organic chemistry, petroleum chemistry, plastics, physical and inorganic chemistry, rubber chemistry, sugar chemistry and technology, and water, sewage and sanitation chemistry.

Research is being carried on to extend the possibilities for utilization of cotton, rice, sugar, tung nuts, and other agricultural products; as well as the derivatives: fats, oils, carbohydrates, enzymes, vitamins, starches, and food products. Research is also concerned with paper chemistry, nutrition, and the various phases of physical chemistry, and spectroscopy.

The Library does not keep a file of patent specifications. It does have on hand, however, a book of patent coupons, and specifications are ordered when requested. These are filed in the vertical file under—Patent Specifications—by patent number under subject. The Library has a complete file of the U. S. Patent Gazette from 1927.

The Library will lend material to libraries and research organizations for a period not over ten days unless such a loan is detrimental to work currently being carried on in the College of Chemistry.

Bibliographies, surveys of literature within the scope of the library and reports on special subjects are made upon request, and a card file of recent literature on subjects of interest is kept.

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

In December the Library Science students completed the organization of the Northwestern State Library Club. The Club has as its purpose the furthering of professional knowledge and the promotion of fellowship among its members. The organization will also plan opportunities for the recruitment of prospective librarians. Miss Azoline Stevens was elected president of the club.

LANGFORD LODGE, COUNTRY CLUB OF THE ETO

EX-SGT. ROBERT C. TUCKER

Formerly, Reference Assistant, L. S. U. Library

When D-day arrived, I was reluctantly helping to close the Air Force station at Maghaberry in Northern Ireland. We of the Signal Corps had thoroughly enjoyed our work there, not only because of the relative freedom we had, but because of our location. The hamlet from which the base took its name is located on a high hill overlooking the green, rolling valley of the River Lagan, to the south. The long evenings of the Irish spring gave a group of us with the tourist spirit ample opportunity to explore the quiet countryside. Without warning, which is usual in the army, we were told to pack up and leave our pleasant valley. It is no wonder that I arrived at Langford Lodge after a trip of some ten or twelve miles, in a critical frame of mind, rather than looking forward to an experience at the center of U.S. Army Air Forces activities in Northern Ireland. But that was before the many pleasures of life there were known.

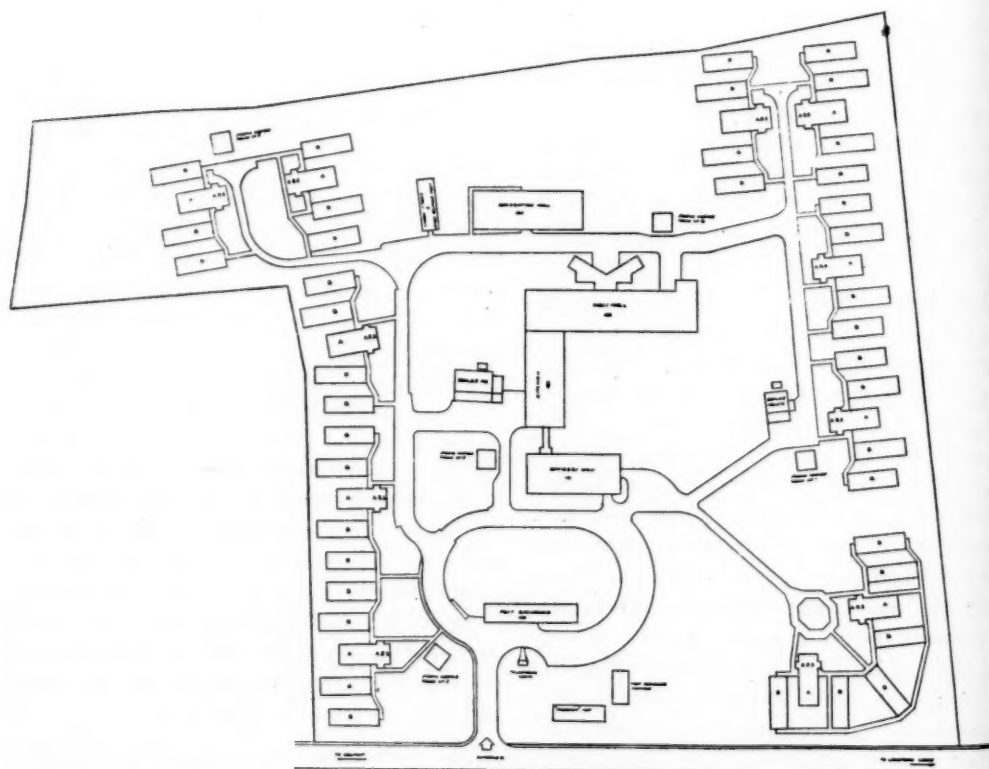
Langford Lodge was the familiar name of AAF Station 597. It was one of three large repair depots maintained in the United Kingdom, and was the only one of the three in Northern Ireland. The base itself was built near the town of Crumlin, in County Antrim, on a point of land extending out into Lough Neagh from its east bank, which had been requisitioned by the British government from the Pakenham family. This latter fact alone made the place interesting to a Louisianian acquainted with his state's history. It was the home of the General Pakenham who was killed at the Battle of New Orleans, and whose body was returned to Langford to be buried in the family chapel. This chapel was completely surrounded by hangars and runways when the base was built by the Lockheed Overseas Corporation (usually re-

ferred to as L.O.C.) for a base to assemble their famed Lightnings and to repair many kinds of planes. Since a civilian corporation built the base for its civilian employees, many things were found there that were seldom if ever found at other overseas bases. All of the barracks—largely of brick, one story, with a capacity of about 28—were steam heated and most of them were equipped with steel beds with inner spring mattresses. A four lane bowling alley, a movie house, a rifle range, and a gymnasium were constructed for the use of the "feather merchants" during their leisure hours. Due to the fact that the draft was never extended to Northern Ireland, there was an ample supply of civilian labor, and thousands of Irish were employed to work as secretaries, truck drivers, janitors, cooks, and waiters. From the first, Langford was something of a hybrid. It was under army command, but civilians were responsible for the work being done there. By D-day, Lockheed had accomplished its mission, and the army was taking over the complete operation of the base, as well as its comforts. A small number of American civilians were retained as civilian employees of the army, but most of them either joined the navy at Londonderry or were returned to the States, where they became subject to the draft. This brings me to the point of this sketch: Lockheed had also built an excellent library, and it was my good fortune to arrive at Langford Lodge just at the time the army was getting ready to take it over; they needed a librarian, and I was the only qualified man on the spot.

The library had been started in August, 1942, with books received as gifts from the Manchester Public Library and the U.S.O., and by L. O. C. purchase. By June, 1943,

the number of titles had grown to 4,800 and by June, 1944 when the army took charge, there were more than 6,500 volumes in the collection, representing an expenditure of some \$30,000. Though it is difficult for one who arrived after the organization had taken place, to make a definite statement, it appeared that the library's early development was in conjunction with Lockheed's extensive educational program. At least, the librarian had been a member of the Education Section and his primary duty had been to edit the daily news sheet. He was supplied with a copy of *Dewey*, the *Standard Catalog for Public Libraries*, and *Sears' List of Subject Headings*; but from the use that had

been made of them it was apparent that he had had little library training. The aeronautics section was quite large and contained multiple copies of books which were used in teaching courses in sheet metal work, engine mechanics, propellers, aerodynamics, hydraulics, and other aviation subjects. The business management, fine arts, social sciences, history, and psychology sections were also rather large. Approximately one half of the collection was recreational, being divided about evenly between novels on the one hand and mysteries and westerns on the other. In the early days before other recreational facilities were available, the L.O.C. employees borrowed an average of about 100 volumes



Hostel Site No. 1, Langford Lodge.

daily, but this tapered off to an average of about 50 volumes daily when the movie, bowling alley, rifle range, and gymnasium began operation.

When the army took charge of the library, it was located quite near the headquarters building and was convenient to the two barracks' sites which were used by army personnel; but it was housed in a rather disreputable building which had once been used for teaching sheet metal work. I was never able to learn what type of building it was; but it looked like a large, elliptical Nissen hut, constructed of large cement blocks bolted together without any interior supports, and covered with tar paper that had been painted olive drab. At the beginning of the army's tenure, the Special Service Officer was located in a room that had been added at the back. When the office was moved to permanent quarters, we had plenty of room in which to arrange the collection. In the way of furniture, we inherited a good sized Library Bureau charging desk, a 15 tray card catalog, a dictionary stand, a newspaper rack, and six sections of adjustable wooden shelving. More important than these, we fell heir to 30 magazine and newspaper subscriptions and 12 copies each month of the Book-of-the-Month Club and Literary Guild selections, which continued to arrive until the subscriptions expired in December, 1944. Surely no army library, in the European Theater at least, was better equipped than that.

On June 18th, 1944, I and two assistants, neither of whom had had previous library experience, began circulating books and magazines to army personnel and civilian employees of the army. According to regulations, Irish employees did not have access to the library, but their insatiable hunger for western stories would not be denied, and we winked at that regulation for the sake of Anglo-American relations. As the personnel on the base were transferred to England and the continent upon the completion of various phases of work, our circulation statistics reflected the decline. Originally circulating around 50 volumes daily, this number leveled

off to between 35 and 40, when the population at Langford Lodge became static at approximately 1200, early in 1945. If this seems a small number of books to circulate, bear in mind the fact that there were many other attractions, the chief one being the movie. Without an organized educational program there was little incentive to use the technical collection, and Belfast was only 18 miles away. It would have taken a high powered publicity campaign to counteract all the distractions.

From the first, the Council Books proved quite popular, and we kept a complete file of them, charging them out for two weeks as we did the bound volumes. The unit sets of magazines, distributed to army organizations by Special Service, were distributed to the base from the library and proved quite valuable, though many chose to read the regular issues when available. As the end of the L.O.C. subscriptions drew near, I began casting about for a means of continuing to add new books to the collection despite the fact that no funds were available for purchase after the army took charge. Through the good offices of Mr. Wellesford, Secretary of The Library Association in London, I arranged an exchange with the Services Central Book Depot, the organization which took care of the reading requirements of the British services. Most of their books had been received from book drives, but they had been carefully gone over, and we were able to secure many valuable additions to our collection in exchange for duplicate copies from the technical collection. I also arranged an exchange with a civilian book dealer. A considerable number of duplicate Book-of-the-Month Club and Library Guild selections had accumulated before the subscriptions expired. These the dealer allowed me to exchange for volumes in his stock. However, the British book trade was in such dire straits because of the lack of paper that it was several months before I was able to use up the credit given me for our volumes.

Recreational reading interests were about what would be expected of a predominantly young, male group. Westerns appealed as

much to some G.I.s (and officers) as they did to the Irish; we always did a good business in *Zane Grey*. Among the novels, *Caldwell*, *Farrell*, *Hemingway*, *Steinbeck*, and *Thorne Smith* were always in demand. Some confined their reading largely to historical novels—we had all the titles of *Kenneth Roberts*. Few ventured into *Proust*, and *Martin du Gard*, however. In the subject fields, there was a surprising interest in Psychology and Philosophy; and, though these sections were fairly large, there were always more requests than we could fill. Aviation, as one would expect at an air base, received a lot of attention, as did Business and Personnel Management. In general, however, the readers at Langford Lodge were recreationally inclined.

Up to the very last, I agitated for a better building to house the library, and got nowhere. As is so often the case when the library is operated for some larger organization or institution, the authorities were never convinced of the need for adequate housing. Few of the higher ranking officers were readers—that is they did not use the library—so they had no personal knowledge of the library's inadequate facilities.

We were still in our big Nissen hut when the sad word arrived that Langford Lodge, with all its comforts, pleasures, and no K.P., was to be closed. That was the signal for "the rape of the library." In the army, books are listed as Special Service property, and Special Service officers overseas are respon-

sible but not accountable for the property charged to them.

The Special Service officer at Langford notified his friends that they could take any books they wanted. He reasoned that if the books were shipped to England in accordance with instructions, either they would be stored in a warehouse and never seen again; or they would be appropriated by anyone that wanted them at the base in England. So why not let his friends have them. A few items, such as *Webster's Unabridged Dictionary* and the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, I salvaged to send to the Shrivenham American University. The rest were fair game for all who came, and the local post office did the biggest business it ever had when the men began mailing books home. Engineers took handbooks and technical books, some confined their interests to a single field, but most took whatever struck their fancy since it was all free for the taking. It was unfortunate that a splendid collection which could have gone to the Army of Occupation in Germany was dissipated in such a manner.

If you should ever run into someone who served with the Air Service Command in the British Isles, and you ask him where he was stationed, and he says, "Langford Lodge," don't be surprised if he gets a misty look in his eyes. He is remembering the time when he was thrown out of the Lodge, back into the cold, cruel Air Force. We never again, "had it so good"!

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION REFERENCE LIST

Mary Clay, Librarian, Northeast Junior College, has been asked to serve on a committee to revise the reference book list of the Southern Association. The invitation came from Dr. W. Stanley Hoole, Director of Libraries at the University of Alabama,

and Mrs. Brainard Cheney, Reference Librarian, Joint University Libraries, Nashville. There will be five members of the Committee which is to meet soon to work out details for the revision of the reference book list. This revision is being made at the request of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

REGULATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY EXAMINERS

J. NEWT OGDEN

Director, Department of Occupational Standards

Two types of certificates are issued: (1) executive and (2) temporary. Candidates for executive certificates must have:

- a. College degree
- b. Degree in library science from a Type I or II accredited library school. (A. L. A. Board of Education for Librarianship).
- c. Three years' executive experience in a library of recognized standing.

Candidates for temporary certificates must have all of the above qualifications except the years of executive experience. Such certificates are issued by the Board only as emergency measures. It is expected that individuals holding temporary certificates will qualify for executive certificates within three years.

Candidates must attain a grade of at least 75 in the examination to be granted a certificate. The subjects on which the examination is given are:

- a. Library Science and techniques
- b. Library conditions and laws in Louisiana and in general
- c. Personality and fitness.

Subjects (a) and (b) will be given both orally and in writing. The oral examination will include an interview with the candidate, and will be given on the same day as the written. This interview and the written statements from references supplied by the candidates, will be used as a basis of a candidate's score on (c).

Application blanks for permission to take the examination may be obtained from the

Department of Occupational Standards, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. At the time of application for the examination, all applicants for certificates as librarians shall pay a fee of \$5.00 to defray expenses of the Board, as required by Act No. 36 of 1926.

The annual examination of the Board, prescribed by law, shall be given at the place of the Louisiana Library Association meeting, the day before this event, if possible. If not, it shall be announced for a satisfactory date in April or May.

Announcement of examinations will be made at least two months before each examination is to be given, and all applications for that examination must be on file in the Department of Occupational Standards not later than a month before the date of the examination. In an emergency, with special permission of the Board, if circumstances are extenuating, a candidate may be permitted to take the examination, if his application is received after the announced date. The Board reserves the right to cancel any announced examination if fewer than three candidates signify their desire to appear.

An Executive Certificate is issued for five years, and is renewable if the holder of same is serving in a satisfactory administrative capacity in a city, parish or state library position.

A Temporary Certificate may be changed to an Executive Certificate without the necessity of another examination if the holder completes the prescribed amount of executive experience in a public library of recognized standing.

Any certificate may be revoked for cause.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Edited by

ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Reference Librarian, Louisiana Library Commission

Margaret Reed, librarian of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, has been granted a three months leave of absence by her library board and has taken a temporary appointment with the Los Angeles Public Library. Miss Reed reported to Los Angeles on February 1st.

Selma Villarrubia, librarian of the *Louisiana State Library* in the New Courthouse Building, New Orleans, reports that the library has undertaken a re-cataloging project to include the entire library collection. *Sybil Utter* has been on the staff since November, 1945.

Helen M. Burgess, a graduate of Simmons Library School and recently librarian of the U. S. Naval Center, Sampson, N. Y., has replaced *Mary Nelson Bates* as Eighth Naval District Librarian in New Orleans.

Jessie Howes, formerly with the Chicago Public Library, is librarian of the U. S. Naval Hospital in New Orleans, replacing *Helen Yast*, who has joined the library staff of the Hines Veterans Hospital near Chicago. Miss Howes has also worked at the Naval Air Technical Training Center at Norman, Oklahoma.

Beverly Bruce Gordon, who married the Reverend John L. Womack of Jackson and Clinton, Louisiana, has a little girl, Alma Glenn, born in November. Beverly was formerly librarian of the L. S. U. Law School, to which position *Mrs. Eileen M. Kean* was appointed when Beverly resigned. *Peggy Harper* is cataloger for the Law Library.

Eloise Givens has transferred from the Naval Repair Base in New Orleans to the U. S. Navy Berthing Area at Green Cove Springs, Florida. The library at the Naval Repair Base has been assigned to a seaman.

Mrs. Marie Irvine has been appointed librarian of the Middle American Research Institute at Tulane.

Corinne Fournet, recently discharged from the WAVES after two and one half years' service, has joined the staff of the Rapides Parish Library. Prior to Navy service, she was assistant librarian of the Natchitoches Parish Library.

Rapides Parish Library, which was in the most strategic part of the state for service to military persons because of the concentration of camps in the area, reports that during 1942-45 a total of 7,226 soldiers and members of their families borrowed 86,346 books.

Dora Leonie (Dodie) Beridon has been appointed librarian of the Pineville Branch of the Rapides Parish Library. She has recently been discharged from the Waves, and prior to that she was librarian of the New Roads Branch of the Pointe Coupee Parish Library.

Claud M. Brooks has joined the staff of the Tangipahoa Parish Library as librarian of the Hammond Branch, replacing *Mrs. George Tracy*. Mrs. Tracy resigned to join her husband, Lt. Warren Tracy, recently discharged from the army after overseas service. Miss Brooks served as a Navy librarian during the war and more recently as librarian in charge of the Agricultural Extension Library, L. S. U.

Alice Songe has resigned as librarian of the Vermilion Parish Library, and *Jessica Boatner*, who served as librarian before entering the WACS, has returned as acting librarian.

Mrs. Wilma Gilbert is a new assistant in the Circulation Department of the Louisiana Library Commission headquarters.

Jo Margaret Coullard has received her discharge from the WAVES and is presently with her family in Baton Rouge.

Louise Gray Lemert is the owner of a book from Hitler's own library at Berchtesgaden, sent her by her husband. The book is in French and on the subject of Russian art. Lt. Lemert, now stationed in Czechoslovakia, wears the Bronze star.

Mrs. D. C. Lloyd (Jeanne Williams) is librarian of the Biblioteca Institute Crandon, in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Nina Mitchell and *Mary Morgan* represented the libraries in a joint address at a Special Services Conference at Camp Bowie, June 18-19.

Harriet Lemann is on the staff of the Howard-Tilton Library in the Circulation Department.

Madeline Warren is Librarian of Camp Plauché, New Orleans.

Helen Warren was appointed librarian of the Jesuit High School early in February. She was formerly at the LaGarde General Hospital as Assistant Librarian and Reading Therapist of the Neuro-psychiatric Section. Miss Warren holds a B.A. degree from Dominican College and is a graduate of the Library School, Louisiana State University, Class of 1945.

Marie Louise Goodwin, formerly of the

Jesuit High School, is now working at the New York Public Library.

The *Department of Superintendence* of the *New Orleans Public Schools* issued in January a circular entitled, "The Library in the Elementary School". It is designed to help each teacher understand her responsibility in the development of the school library program. A copy of the bulletin was given every teacher in the white and colored elementary schools.

Lieut. John Hall Jacobs is out of the Navy, and has resumed the responsibilities of Librarian of the New Orleans Public Library.

George King Logan is now Assistant Librarian of the New Orleans Public Library.

Alice Dugas who has been a cataloger in the Library of the Pan American Union in Washington, D. C. since early fall is going to the position of Librarian of the American Grammar and High School in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is succeeding *Amelia Mira*, who is also from the L. S. U. Library School.

Ellis Stringer has been released from the Army in which he served as an Army Forces Technical Librarian at Gulfport.

Marvin Tanner, who was a Lieutenant in the Navy, is enrolled in the L.S.U. Library School for the second semester.

Major T. N. McMullin is out of the Army and back at his old job as Chief Circulation Librarian in the L. S. U. Library.

THE ARMY LIBRARY

HARRIET LEMANN

Howard-Tilton Library, Tulane University

In company with that large group—the ex-service men, and ex-war workers—as an ex-army librarian, I already take pleasure in reminiscing about my "years in the service." Looking back over it all, the milling crowds, (which is the only way to describe the throngs which poured into Camp Plauché

library on a good night), the intense excitement, the heated discussions on problems of the day, the constant movement and change, the talk of books, music, and plays, and the ever-present army red tape, typify a camp library.

To many a soldier the library is his closest

link with the life he once knew. It is the place where he can come after a day of grueling work, unfamiliar routine and blind obedience, to relax, read his favorite magazine and home town newspaper, or perhaps just sink into an easy chair and doze away. An army library is a gay, friendly, informal place, a favorite night spot; not only with the booklovers of the camp, but with the casual reader, the lonesome soldier seeking a sympathetic listener, and the convivial soul who knows that there he will find companions with similar interests: a combination corner drug-store, public library, and civic center.

The army definitely went all out to create attractive, well-decorated, eye-appealing settings in its camp libraries. And it succeeded beautifully! In many camp libraries, instead of rough, unpainted interiors, or make-shift furniture, there were the fittings of a club lounge: upholstered chairs, comfortable sofas, coffee tables, lamps, venetian blinds, smart draperies. After a rearrangement of furniture or the hanging of a picture, one had only to listen to the men's comments to know that the effort expended was well worth while. Smoking is permitted in camp libraries, and there is no ban on talking. Yet, strangely enough, a quiet air prevails at all times.

A camp library comes under the category of special libraries, yet neither the group it deals with nor the books in its collection could be called wholly specialized. Certainly no more heterogeneous group has been brought together than in the American army. "Dead-end kids" from "Hell's Kitchen," refugees from German concentration camps, Mormon missionaries from Utah, are just a few of the more spectacular types of library borrowers who were in Camp Plauché. There were also the farm boy from Iowa, the butcher from Kansas, the baker from Milwaukee, the airplane maker from Cincinnati, and so on and on in a never-ending stream.

Why did they come to the library? For recreation and information: to get the latest best-seller, a treatise on modern physics, a

book on veterinary medicine, or one on watch repairing. There was the university professor who was teaching philosophy to his bunk mates; the student from Birmingham Southern who wanted every scrap of material available on the race question; and the Arkansas lawyer who absorbed Louisiana history and local color.

Since an army library necessarily caters to so varied a public, its book collection parallels that of a public library of comparable size. At Plauché where the size of the camp has varied from 8,000 to 30,000 men there is a main library of 5,800 books and a branch collection of 2,600. The two libraries subscribe to 114 magazines and 47 newspapers. Even when the camp was at full strength the average borrower had little difficulty in finding something, (not just anything) he was anxious to read. For the research student who wants a particular work, not available at camp, books are borrowed through inter-library loans. In some camps and hospitals there is a daily messenger service between the army libraries and the civilian libraries nearby. Thus, no man need be deprived of getting the book he wants, unless he is so unfortunate as to be transferred suddenly.

The camp library has an ever-growing collection. Books are purchased, usually monthly, from local camp funds. And all the usual library procedures of book selection, ordering, accessioning and cataloging go on constantly. In addition to technical books in all subjects an army library usually contains a special collection in some one field, depending upon the branch of the army it serves. It may be aviation, transportation, engineering, medicine, etc. In some camps the recreational and technical libraries are housed separately. Regardless of whether this is the case or not, the recreational library always contains a large number of books in the field in which the camp specializes; just as a public library has a large section devoted to books which reflect the community's interests — mining, agriculture, manufacturing and so on.

The average camp library has a reference

section which is adequate for most of its needs: several standard encyclopedias, an unabridged dictionary, foreign language dictionaries, biographical works, atlases, a book of quotations, technical handbooks, and of course the World Almanac, the life saver of camp librarians. Who knows the untold wealth which has changed hands as a result of bets settled by the World Almanac! To judge by the inquiries received, soldiers spend a large part of their leisure time in camp arguing over such questions as the number of teeth an elephant has, to the comparative ratings of the states in the Union, for activities, production, and achievements of all sorts and description.

A camp library is an integral part of the army and is characterized by all the routines of army practice: periodic inspections of premises, constant waxing and polishing, eternal vigilance against dust, military precision of books on shelves, and paper work in duplicates, triplicates, and even eight carbon copies. These copies are made of property issue slips, memorandum receipts, receiving reports, shipping tickets, reports of surveys, etc. The army way is an entirely new way of doing things to the librarian, yet in spite of regimentation and routine there's never a dull day in a camp library. Helping a soldier to write a letter to his best girl, being an impromptu bridesmaid in a service wedding, giving advice which you hope will keep a fellow from going AWOL, are just part of the job; the fascinating job of being an army librarian.

What of the future of army libraries? What will become of them? No definite plan has been announced. Some have already been closed and the books shipped to other post,

and overseas, libraries. Some so far continue, doing their part in the post-war world. As for many of the army librarians, they are going through that period known as readjustment; trying to reconvert to a civilian librarian again, remembering that it is Mr. So and So, and Professor This and That, instead of Colonel Blank and Private Jones.

RURAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

A bill to extend rural public library service for some of the millions now without it was introduced into Congress on March 12, by Representative Emily Taft Douglas of Illinois and Senator Lister Hill of Alabama. Under terms of the bill, the United States government would provide funds up to \$15,000,000 for demonstration over a four-year period of types of service which are suited to rural areas. The bill also outlines means for studying methods of operation in rural areas and the effect of planning on a wide-area basis.

The program would operate through state library agencies which would submit to the United States Commissioner of Education, plans suited to local conditions. The bill eliminates federal control as soon as states submit plans which meet with specifications included in the bill.

The plans call for either a basic demonstration using \$25,000 per year for four years, financed entirely by federal funds; or for an expanded plan by which the states could secure additional funds on the matching basis.

The bill, HR. 5742 and S. 1920 was referred to the Education Committee of the House and the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

SELECTED LIST OF RECENT LOUISIANA STATE DOCUMENTS

RUTH CAMPBELL

Librarian, Louisiana Collection, L. S. U.

The items listed below are only a few of the many documents issued by the state of Louisiana during the war period. The list includes only those items which are of practical value to Louisiana libraries.

The arrangement is alphabetical under the name of the department from which the publication can be secured. All can be obtained gratis except the Social Studies series issued jointly by the University and State Department of Education. The price of these is indicated under each item.

LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

Louisiana. Department of Commerce and Industry. Industrial directory, state of Louisiana. Sam H. Jones, governor. . . Published by Department of Commerce and Industry. [Baton Rouge, 1942] 204 p.

(This directory gives a list of manufacturing establishments arranged by I. Parishes. II. Classified list of manufacturing industries arranged by type of establishment. III. Industries arranged alphabetically by name.)

LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION.

Louisiana Conservationist, v. 1—December, 1942—New Orleans, Louisiana, Department of Conservation, 1943-date.

(This publication appears monthly and contains interesting articles on natural resources of the state.)

Louisiana. Department of Conservation. Biennial report, 1942/3. New Orleans, Department of Conservation, 1944. 252 p. (The latest report of this department and all previous reports contain much

material of popular interest on wild life, fisheries, forests, petroleum, natural gas, etc.)

LOUISIANA. SECRETARY OF STATE.

Louisiana. Constitution. Constitution of the state of Louisiana, adopted in convention at the city of Baton Rouge, June 18, 1921. As amended through the election of November 3, 1942. . . Baton Rouge, Printed by authority of the legislature. (1942) 375 p.

(The detailed alphabetical index in the back of the volume adds much to its value.)

Louisiana. Department of State. . . Roster of officials corrected through January 25th, 1945. Compiled by Wade O. Martin, jr., Secretary of State [Baton Rouge]. Printed by authority of the state of Louisiana, 1945. 126 p.

(The Roster includes the names and date of the expiration of term in office, of the various state officials, members of the legislature, members of the many state boards and commissions, and judges in the state courts. It also includes the same information for all the parish officials. There is a helpful index in the back of the volume.)

Louisiana. Laws, Statutes, etc. Veterans' benefits under Louisiana laws compiled through the regular session of the legislature of 1944. Printed by authority of Wade O. Martin, jr., Secretary of State. (Baton Rouge, La., 1945) 46 p.

(This booklet should answer questions of returning veterans and their families concerning their rights and benefits under Louisiana law.)

LOUISIANA. STATE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION.

Hayes, Ralph W. Trees and forests of Louisiana . . . with drawings by Lillie S. Hoisington. Baton Rouge, La., Bureau of Educational Materials, Statistics and Research. Louisiana State University, 1945. 96 p. illus. (University Social Studies Series, no. 3, May W. DeBlieux, editor.)

(This is the most recent number of this series. The booklet is well illustrated. It has a chapter on "Suggestive questions and activities" and another section on "How to pronounce words." Individual copies may be secured for fifteen cents from the State Department of Education.)

Kniffen, Fred B. Indians of Louisiana . . . with illustrations by Mildred Compton. Baton Rouge, La., Bureau of Educational Materials, Statistics, and Research. c. 1945. 106 p. illus. (University Social

Studies Series, no. 2, May W. DeBlieux, editor.)

(This is a simple, readable account of the Indians of Louisiana, their history, life and legends. The marginal illustrations are unusually attractive. In the back of the booklet there are "Suggestive questions and activities," Appendix I, "Tribes of 1700," Appendix II, "Indian names in Louisiana," and one page on "How to pronounce words". . . Copies of this booklet can be purchased for fourteen cents from the State Department of Education.)

Louisiana. State Department of Education. Louisiana school directory. Session 1945/46. Prepared by M. S. Robertson. . . Issued by John E. Coxe, State Superintendent of Education, September, 1945. (Baton Rouge) 1945. 96p.

(This list includes names of the State Board of Education, parish school officials, parish and city supervisors of instruction, president and registrars of



I'll be seein' ya!

IN SHREVEPORT

BOOKS

Isn't it good to be anticipating another meeting of the Louisiana Library Association and another meeting with library friends? It won't be long now!

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state institutions of higher learning and private colleges, directors of trade schools, principals of elementary and high schools and also a directory of negro schools.)

Russell, Richard Joel. . . . The Mississippi river, . . . with diagrams by Richard Joel Russell and sketches by William B. Read. Baton Rouge, La., Educational Materials Bureau, Louisiana State University. 120 p. illus. (University Social Studies series no. 1, May W. DeBlieux, editor.)

(This booklet, designed especially for the public schools, has many attractive pictures and diagrams and sketches. It gives the history and description of the Mississippi river. There are suggested questions after each chapter and a section on "How to pronounce words." This pamphlet can be purchased for fourteen cents from the State Department of Education.)

LOUISIANA. STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

Louisiana. State Department of Health. Biennial report . . . 1942/3. n.p. 1944?) 210 p.

(This report gives a summary of the work of the department, it contains sections under the following headings. I. Division of preventive medicine. II. Public health education. III. Public health engineering. V. Public health nursing. VI. Public health statistics and vital statistics tables.)

Louisiana. State Department of Health. Quarterly bulletin. New Orleans, Louisiana. State Department of Health, 1945.

(This publication contains articles of popular interest on food, diseases, vital statistics, screening, etc. It appears in March, June, September and December.)

Louisiana. State Department of Health. Sanitary inspector's manual . . . New Orleans, La., Printed by Peerless printing co., c. 1942. 350 p. illus.

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(This volume should be a great help in teaching the important relationship between sanitation, school sanitation and hygiene, rural and community sanitation and hygiene, communicable disease control, nutrition ,etc.)

LOUISIANA. STATE PARKS COMMISSION.

Louisiana. State Parks Commission. Report. 1942/3. New Orleans, 1943. 127 p.

(This commission was created in 1934 for the purpose of establishing, operating and maintaining state parks and recreational centers. The report shows what has been done about state parks and the facilities they offer for picnicking, camping and fishing. The volume is well illustrated.)

LOUISIANA FORESTRY COMMISSION.

Brown, Clair Alan. Louisiana trees and shrubs. Baton Rouge, August, 1945. 262 p. illus. Louisiana Forestry Commission. Bulletin no. 1.

(This excellent book fills a long felt need for all those interested in identifying trees and shrubs of the state. The many good illustrations are actual photographs. There is a glossary. The index gives the common names in roman type and scientific names in italic.)

LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM. NEW ORLEANS.

Louisiana State Museum. A guide book, by Stanley C. Arthur. New Orleans, La., Board of Curators, 1945. 144 p. incl. front., illus.

(This guide book contains many illustrations, a history of the Cabildo and a detailed description of the exhibits in the various rooms. Between pages 80 and 81 are colored pictures of the ten flags that have flown over the state.)

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